

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A power transmission apparatus comprising:

a first power transmission member;

a casing provided with an opening that opens towards said first power transmission member;

a constant velocity universal joint connected to said first power transmission member;

and

a second power transmission member connected to said first power transmission member via said constant velocity universal joint; wherein

an outer race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed integrally to a casing side end of said first power transmission member;

an inner race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed integrally to said second power transmission member;

said outer race is disposed so as to block said opening;

said first power transmission member includes a drive shaft;

said casing includes a diff case of a differential gear; and

said second power transmission member includes a side gear.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The power transmission apparatus according to claim 11, wherein an outer surface of said outer race has a spherical configuration,

said power transmission apparatus further comprising a seal member forming contact with a surface of said opening and an outer surface of said outer race.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A power transmission apparatus comprising:

- a first power transmission member;
- a casing provided with an opening that opens towards said first power transmission member;
- a constant velocity universal joint connected to said first power transmission member;
- and
- a second power transmission member connected to said first power transmission member via said constant velocity universal joint; wherein
- an outer race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed integrally to a casing side end of said first power transmission member;
- an inner race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed integrally to said second power transmission member;
- said outer race is disposed so as to block said opening;
- said first power transmission member includes a propeller shaft;
- said casing includes a diff carrier of a differential gear; and
- said second power transmission member includes an input shaft of said differential gear.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The power transmission apparatus according to claim 13, wherein an outer surface of said outer race has a spherical configuration,

said power transmission apparatus further comprising a seal member forming contact with a surface of said opening and an outer surface of said outer race.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): A power transmission apparatus comprising:

- a first power transmission member;
- a casing provided with an opening that opens towards said first power transmission member;
- a constant velocity universal joint connected to said first power transmission member;
- and
- a second power transmission member connected to said first power transmission member via said constant velocity universal joint; wherein
- an outer race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed integrally to a casing side end of said first power transmission member;
- an inner race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed integrally to said second power transmission member;
- said outer race is disposed so as to block said opening;
- said first power transmission member includes a propeller shaft;
- said casing includes a casing of a power distribution apparatus; and
- said second power transmission member includes an output shaft of said power distribution apparatus.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The power transmission apparatus according to claim 15, wherein an outer surface of said outer race has a spherical configuration,

said power transmission apparatus further comprising a seal member forming contact with a surface of said opening and an outer surface of said outer race.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A differential gear comprising:

- a side gear; and

a first power transmission member connected to said side gear via a constant velocity universal joint; wherein

an end of said first power transmission member has an inner surface defining an internal cavity that opens towards said side gear;

an outer race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed at said inner surface; and

an inner race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed at a surface of said side gear.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A differential gear comprising:

an input shaft in meshing engagement with ~~provided at a side closer to~~ a ring gear; and

a propeller shaft ~~first power transmission member provided at a side farther from the ring gear,~~ connected to said input shaft via a constant velocity universal joint; wherein

an end of said ~~first power transmission member~~ propeller shaft has an inner surface defining an internal cavity that opens towards said input shaft;

an outer race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed at said inner surface; and

an inner race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed at a surface of said input shaft.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): A power distribution apparatus comprising:

an output shaft; and

a propeller shaft connected to said output shaft via a constant velocity universal joint; wherein

an end of said propeller shaft has an inner surface defining an internal cavity that opens towards said output shaft;

an outer race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed at said inner surface;
and

an inner race of said constant velocity universal joint is formed at a surface of said output shaft.